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- (74) Agents: HILL, Christopher, Michael et al.; Page White & Farrer, 54 Doughty Street, London WC1N 2LS (GB).
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- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): TH-ERYTE LTD [GB/GB]; 5 Castle Street, Liverpool L2 4XE (GB).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): WARENIUS, Hilmar, Meek [GB/GB]; 14 Delavor Road, Heswell, Wirral CH60 4RN (GB). RUDLAND, Philip, Spencer [GB/GB]; 2 Brampton Drive, Myrtle Street, Liverpool L8 7ST (GB). SEABRA, Laurence, Anthony [GB/GB]; 12 Richmond Way, Heswell, Wirral L61 6XH (GB).
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(54) Title: TREATING CANCER

(57) Abstract: Provided is a method for screening for effective agents for the treatment of cancer which method comprises selecting a putative agent that is likely to disrupt a function mediated by a critical normal gene product, which function is required for the successful division and continued cell survival of cancer cells, and which function is not required for the successful division and continued cell survival of control cells, treating a cancer cell sample and a control cell sample with a putative agent and determining the cytotoxic effect of, and/or the growth inhibitory effect of the putative agent on these samples, and identifying an effective agent as an agent which is more cytotoxic to, and/or more inhibiting to the growth of the cancer cell sample than the control cell sample. This invention further provides an effective agent identified by this screening method and a method of treating a cancer patient with such an agent.

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